

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-2 (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The hand saw according to claim 23, wherein said handle is a single, integrally formed member.

4. (Previously Presented) The hand saw according to claim 26, wherein said blade mounting screw is removably engaged with said screw boss of said one of said first and second blade mounting portions so as to couple said blade to said handle.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The hand saw according to claim 23, wherein said handle includes a hook member for hanging said the hand saw.

7-22 (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A hand saw comprising:

a handle including a hand grip portion adapted to be received ~~[[in]]~~ by a user's palm and fingers and first and second blade mounting portions, said hand grip portion defining an inner surface adapted to be received by the user's fingers and an outer surface adapted to be received by the user's palm, said first blade mounting portion being disposed on a side surface of said handle and said second blade mounting portion being disposed on a bottom surface of said handle; and

a blade removably mounted at a proximal end of said blade to one of said first and second blade mounting portions and extending in a first direction away from said handle, wherein said blade has an unsupported distal end,

wherein said inner surface and said outer surface of said hand grip portion ~~is~~ are sloped toward said blade so as to be oriented at an acute angle relative to said second blade mounting portion, and

wherein said first and second blade mounting portions each include a key adapted to be received in an end slot in said blade.

24. (Previously Presented) The hand saw according to claim 26, wherein said blade is secured relative to said handle in each of a lengthwise direction of said blade, a widthwise direction of said blade, and a depthwise direction of said blade by a positive engagement of said blade with one or more of said handle and said blade mounting screw.

25. (Previously Presented) The hand saw according to claim 24, wherein said handle includes a hook member for hanging said hand saw.

26. (Previously Presented) The hand saw according to claim 23, wherein said first and second blade mounting portions each include a screw boss for receiving a blade mounting screw therein.

27. (Previously Presented) The hand saw according to claim 23, wherein said first blade mounting portion includes a threaded hole for receiving a fastener therein.

28. (Previously Presented) The hand saw according to claim 27, wherein said second blade mounting portion includes a threaded hole for receiving a mounting screw therein.

29. (Previously Presented) The hand saw according to claim 28, wherein said handle includes a hook member.